

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

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SUBJECT Air Defense Organization and Anti-Aircraft Protection in Yugoslavia

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1. The Anti-aircraft Defense Command, which is attached to the General Staff Headquarters, is in charge of all anti-aircraft defense in Yugoslavia. Regiments of the PAO (Protiv Avionska Odbrana), stationed throughout the Army territories, are under the jurisdiction of the above command. One such regiment is attached to each army. Each PAO regiment is equipped with a 150 mm. search-light, and some regiments are equipped with barrage balloons. A separate organization known as VOOV (air observation, information and communications), is under the PAO command, and cooperates closely with all the PAO units. The VOOV has a network of stations, particularly in the border and coastal areas, whose duty it is to spot airplanes and air formations and to report to the Air Defense Command such information as number and model of plane, altitude, course, speed, the zone in which they were observed, et cetera.
2. On the basis of a government decree, orders were issued in 1948 to set up an organization for the protection of the civilian population from air attacks. The organization is known as PAZ (Protivavionska Zastita) and comes under The Ministry of Internal Affairs. Civilian defense has been organized in the towns, and courses are given in such subjects as first aid, use of sanitary equipment, and care and evacuation of the wounded. Courses are taught for bomb disposal units and chemical defense. Other courses give indoctrination in discipline during air attacks so as to prevent panic, riots, looting, et cetera.

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